

## Data Sheet

<b>USAID Mission:</b>	Serbia
<b>Program Title:</b>	Democracy and Governance
<b>Pillar:</b>	Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance
<b>Strategic Objective:</b>	169-0200
<b>Status:</b>	Continuing
<b>Planned FY 2005 Obligation:</b>	\$5,250,000 AEEB
<b>Prior Year Unobligated:</b>	\$3,650,000 AEEB
<b>Proposed FY 2006 Obligation:</b>	\$6,813,000 AEEB
<b>Year of Initial Obligation:</b>	2003
<b>Estimated Year of Final Obligation:</b>	2007

**Summary:** This program promotes more effective, responsive, and accountable democratic institutions that benefit citizens in municipalities across Serbia. It supports grants, exchanges, and technical assistance for non-governmental organizations (NGOs), independent media, and trade unions; supports anti-trafficking programs of international and local organizations, gives technical assistance to democratically-oriented parties, Parliament, and selected government institutions; and provides training and technical assistance to support an ethical, independent, and better-trained judiciary and a more efficient, ethical, and transparent legal system.

### **Inputs, Outputs, Activities:**

**FY 2005 Program:** Improve Justice Sector/Legal Framework (\$2,550,000 AEEB). Current justice sector activities include: 1) providing technical assistance to Serbia's independent associations of judges, prosecutors, magistrates, and young lawyers; 2) assisting four law schools to reform curriculum and teaching methodology; 3) conducting the first comprehensive analysis of Serbian court backlogs and developing strategies for addressing the backlog; and 4) addressing issues related to war crimes. A new activity will focus on management of civil and magistrates courts, and the planned appellate courts. USAID supports the Humanitarian Law Center (HLC) in locating witnesses and facilitating their testimony in war crimes cases, operating the War Crimes Documentation Center, and promoting ethnic reconciliation. Principal partners: the American Bar Association/Central European and Eurasian Law Initiative (ABA/CEELI), and the National Center for State Courts (NCSC) (primes).

Strengthen Civil Society (\$500,000 AEEB, \$1,330,000 AEEB carryover). USAID will provide grants, training, and technical assistance to strengthen NGOs to support and monitor democratic reforms (including human rights, truth and reconciliation, Serbia's reintegration into the Balkans and Europe, and transparency in government). The program develops NGO advocacy skills, professional and financial management, and fund-raising capacity. NGOs support free and fair elections through voter education, non-partisan domestic monitoring, and get-out-the vote campaigns. Technical assistance helps NGOs advocate for a legal framework for NGOs, which is still lacking. Independent trade union programs transfer skills to union representatives to dialogue with government and business on economic reform issues. Grantees: Freedom House, and the American Center for International Labor Solidarity (primes).

Establish and Ensure Media Freedom and Freedom of Information (\$700,000 AEEB, \$770,000 AEEB carryover). This program supports independent and commercially viable media and advocacy for implementing a predictable regulatory environment for media; provides professional training in journalism and management; supports the leading independent TV station, B92, as well as the national network of smaller TV and radio stations associated with ANEM (the Association of Independent Electronic Media) and supports media coverage of the Hague Tribunal war crimes trials and selected quality local productions (especially on human rights, ethnic relations, democratic reform issues, and voter education). Grantee: the International Research and Exchanges Board (prime).

Strengthen Democratic Political Parties (\$1,200,000 AEEB, \$1,350,000 AEEB carryover). Through training and technical assistance, USAID helps democratically-oriented political parties improve internal communications and organization, recruit and utilize grassroots volunteers, craft and communicate policy messages, increase women and youth representation, and work effectively with the press. Assistance also prepares democratic parties, both in and out of power, to govern effectively. This work is closely integrated with support of free and fair elections, focusing on developing campaign plans and messages, grassroots volunteers, and responding to voter priorities with focused platforms. Technical assistance to the political and civilian leadership of selected ministries and local governments helps reinforce transparency and effective communication with citizens. Grantees: the International Republican Institute, and the National Democratic Institute (primes).

Reduce Trafficking in Persons (\$300,000 AEEB, \$200,000 AEEB carryover). The current implementing agreement provides shelter and social work assistance to victims and advocates with relevant government agencies on trafficking policy issues. This agreement will expire in FY 2005 and a new one will be developed with a refocused program. Grantee: International Organization for Migration (prime).

**FY 2006 Program:** Since FY 2006 represents a transitional year, the current existing agreements for all of the above components are scheduled to end, and most if not all FY 2006 funding will be obligated to new grants, cooperative agreements, or contracts. A further expansion of the justice sector and human rights programming will begin in FY 2005 and continue through FY 2006. The structure of the civil society program will be changed; broad civil society strengthening activities (technical assistance and training) to many Serbian NGOs will be reduced and longer-term support given for reform advocacy work of a small group of NGOs. The labor program will be completed. If effective and democratic regulation of the broadcast media is finally established, the media program may be even further reduced or ended. Funding of program components is expected to continue, namely: 1) Improve Justice Sector/Legal framework (\$2,250,000 AEEB); 2) Civil Society Strengthening, including advocacy on human rights issues (\$1,763,000 AEEB); 3) Establish and Ensure Media Freedom and Freedom of Information (\$1,100,000 AEEB); 4) Strengthening Democratic Political Parties, including support of free elections (\$1,400,000 AEEB); and 5) Reducing Trafficking in Persons (\$300,000 AEEB).

**Performance and Results:** The overall political/democracy environment for FY 2004 was mixed. Numerous elections were held, the democratic parties remain fragmented, and the national political debate is still mired in the unresolved issues of war crimes and cooperation with the Hague tribunal, the future of Kosovo, and the union with Montenegro. Democratic reformers found few allies within the government. Nonetheless, there were notable achievements in every component of the portfolio. Most striking were the completion of assistance for setting up the high-profile special courts (for war crimes and organized crime) and the highly coordinated election support effort (targeted get-out-the-vote, voter education, and domestic monitoring) by media, civil society and political party programs. USAID issued approximately 24 civil society grants supporting legal aid for the victims of past human rights violations, introducing a tolerance-building civic education curriculum, and other democratic advocacy efforts. Serbia's leading independent television station, B92, received assistance to expand to its broadcasting range to most of Serbia's territory. ANEM received support for advocating for a predictable legal broadcasting structure and the privatization of municipal stations. The Centre for Free Elections and Democracy, the domestic election monitoring NGO boosted its capacity to maintain an elections database and to implement election monitoring. A major diagnosis of court case backlogs has begun, and is eliciting much professional interest.

## US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

**Serbia**

169-0200 Democracy and Governance	<b>AEEB</b>
<b>Through September 30, 2003</b>	
Obligations	13,058
Expenditures	2,868
Unliquidated	10,190
<b>Fiscal Year 2004</b>	
Obligations	12,105
Expenditures	10,479
<b>Through September 30, 2004</b>	
Obligations	25,163
Expenditures	13,347
Unliquidated	11,816
<b>Prior Year Unobligated Funds</b>	
Obligations	3,650
<b>Planned Fiscal Year 2005 NOA</b>	
Obligations	5,250
<b>Total Planned Fiscal Year 2005</b>	
Obligations	8,900
<b>Proposed Fiscal Year 2006 NOA</b>	
Obligations	6,813
Future Obligations	7,000
Est. Total Cost	47,876